RESPIRATORY HEALTH EFFECTS OF PASSIVE SMOKING: LUNG CANCER AND OTHER DISORDERS

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FOREWORD 1/19/93

PREFACE

This assessment of the respiratory health effects associated with passive smoking has been prepared by the Human Health Assessment Group, Office of Health and Environmental Assessment, Office of Research and Development, which is responsible for the report's scientific accuracy and conclusions. The assessment was prepared at the request of the Indoor Air Division, Office of Atmospheric and Indoor Air Programs, Office of Air and Radiation, which defined the assessment's scope and provided funding.

The report has been developed under the authority of Title IV of Superfund (The Radon Gas and Indoor Air Quality Research Act of 1986) to provide information and guidance on the potential hazards of indoor air pollutants.

Two drafts of this report were made available for public review and comments, the first in June 1990 (reviewed by the Agency's Science Advisory Board [SAB] in December 1990) and a significantly revised draft in May 1992 (reviewed by the SAB in July 1992). This report reflects the comments received from those reviews.

A comprehensive search of the scientific literature for this report is complete through September 1991. In addition, pertinent studies published through July 1992 have been included in the analysis in response to recommendations made by reviewers.

Due to both resource and time constraints, the scope of this report has been limited to an analysis of respiratory effects, primarily lung cancer in nonsmoking adults and noncancer respiratory illnesses in children, with emphasis on the epidemiologic data. Further, because two thorough reviews on passive smoking were completed in 1986 (by the U.S. Surgeon General and the National Research Council), this document provides a summary of those reports with a more comprehensive analysis of the literature appearing subsequent to those reports and an integration of the results.

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This document was prepared by the Office of Health and Environmental Assessment (OHEA) within the Office of Research and Development, with major contract funding provided by the Indoor Air Division within the Office of Air and Radiation's Office of Atmospheric and Indoor Air Programs. Steven P. Bayard¹ was the OHEA project manager with overall responsibility for the contents of this report and its conclusions. Other OHEA staff members responsible for the scientific content of sections of this document are Jennifer Jinot¹ and Aparna M. Koppikar.¹ Jennifer Jinot and Steven Bayard were the scientific editors.

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Major portions of this revised report were prepared by ICF Incorporated, Fairfax, Virginia, under EPA Contract No. 68-00-0102. While OHEA staff provided technical editing and incorporated reviewers' comments into each chapter in an attempt to develop a comprehensive and consistent document, the following people were the primary authors:

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This final report was preceded by two earlier drafts: an External Review Draft (EPA/600/6-90/006A) published in May 1990, and an SAB Review Draft (EPA/600/6-90/006B) published in May 1992. The External Review Draft was released for public review and comment on June 25, 1990, and was subsequently reviewed by the EPA Science Advisory Board (SAB) on December 4 and 5, 1990. The SAB Review Draft incorporated many of the public comments and especially the valuable advice presented in the SAB's April 19, 1991, report to the Agency. In addition, many reviewers both within and outside the Agency provided assistance at various internal review stages.

The second Review Draft also was reviewed by the SAB on July 21 and 22, 1992, which provided its report to the Agency on November 20, 1992. The authors wish to thank all those who sought to improve the quality of this report with their comments and are particularly grateful to the SAB for its advice.

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